

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 10878 221427Z

11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 MCT-01 SY-05

/032 W

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R 221216Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6909

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, NI

SUBJECT: LAGOS AIRPORT SECURITY

REF: STATE 212490

1. LAGOS VISITED BY FAA SECURITY SPECIALIST, L. DUNLAP, IN JUNE 76. DUNLAP, ACCOMPANIED BY FAA REP OR EMBOFF, TOURED AIRPORT FACILITY AND MADE SAFETY AND SECURITY SLIDE SPRESENTATION TO DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION AND SEVERAL OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS AT MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION. OFFICIALS WERE ATTENTIVE AND INTERESTED DURING PRESENTATION AND ASKED GOOD QUESTIONS AT CONCLUSION. DUNLAP POINTED OUT THAT FAA HAD SECURITY TRAINING COURSES IN U.S. AND TRAVELING SECURITY SPECIALISTS WHO COULD BE MADE AVAILABE TO ADVISE NIGERIAN COUNTERPARTS. OFFICIALS AVERRED SUCH ASSISTANCE NOT NECESSARY AT THIS TIME.

2. POST IMPRESSED THAT AIRPORT SECURITY, WHILE IMPROVED, IS STILL LAX. THOROUGH PHYSICAL AND ELECTRONIC SCREENING OF ALL BOARDING PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE IS ACCOMPLISHED, BUT SEGREGATION OF SCREENED PASSENGERS NOT COMPLETE. AIRPORT PERIMETER POORLY FENCED AND PATROLLED AND ORDINARY THIEVES, LET ALONE DEDICATED TERRORISTS, WOULD HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE PENETRATING TO RUNWAYS, AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE FACILITIES, CARGO WAREHOUSES, AND SCREENED PASSENGER AND CARGO AREAS. IN WAKE OF

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 10878 221427Z

FEBRUARY ABORTIVE COUP, AIRPORT SECURITY INCREASED. VIGILANCE

UNSYSTEMATIC, HOWEVER, AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS GAPS EXIST. FOR EXAMPLE, TOURISTS TAKING PROHIBITED PHOTOGRAPHS OF "WELCOME TO NIGERIA" SIGN QUICKLY APPREHENDED WHILE CASUAL VISITORS TO INTERCONTINENTAL AIRCRAFT PARKING AREAS UNCHALLENGED. MOTIVATED BAND OF TERRORISTS WITH MINIMUM OF EQUIPMENT AND EXPERTISE COULD TAKE CONTROL OF VIRTUALLY ANY AIRCRAFT OR SECTOR OF THE AIRPORT.

3. FOREGOING CRITICISMS NOTWITHSTANDING, AIRPORT SECURITY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH NATIONAL SECURITY IN MIND OF FMG. EMBASSY HARD SELL OF INCREASED AIRPORT SECURITY THEREFORE LIKELY TO BE VIEWED WITH SUSPICION. NONETHELESS, WORKING THROUGH MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO NUDGE FMG TOWARD GREATER APPLICATION OF RELEVANT ICAO STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES WITHOUT EXCITING COUNTERPRODUCTIVE NIGERIAN RESENTMENT.  
EASUM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL TRAINING, FILMS, AIRPORTS, PROCEDURAL SECURITY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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